

PRISM

Poplar
Ridge
Information
Sharing
Monthly

1st Religious Society of Friends, Poplar Ridge

DECEMBER 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Rebecca Schillenback	2 7:00pm Meditation Group @ Nelson's	3 7:00pm Peace and Social Action Committee @ Buxenbaum's	4 6:00pm potluck supper @ sammond/Rhudy's 7:00pm Mid-week Worship @ Sammond/Rhudy's	5	6	7 9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry
8 10:00am Meeting for Worship - A.T. Miller Coffee Hour	9 7:00pm Youth Committee Meeting @ Otis'	10	11	12	13 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	14
15 Winter Cheer Sunday - bring donations 10:00am Meeting for Worship - unprogrammed Monthly Meeting for Business at the rise of Meeting	16 9:00am Winter Cheer Box Packing 7:30pm Men's Spiritual Nurture Group	17 7:15pm Women's Spiritual Nurture @ Otis'	18 7:00pm Mid-week Worship @ Berggren-Thomas'	19	20 Shepherds' Play @ Ithaca Waldorf School	21 9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry 7:00pm Shepherds' Play @ Meetinghouse
22 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Rebecca Shillenback 5:00pm Children's Holiday Program	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day Deadline for PRISM submissions	26	27 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	28
29 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Song and Silence	30 7:00pm Ministry & Counsel @ Bunker's	31 New Year's Eve				

Birthdays: 1st Vivian Cunningham; 4th Arlo Temelko-Post; 10th Cazimer George Schillenback; 11th Joe Dosch; 12th Walter Moora; 13th Walter Foulke, Susan Deacon; 14th Beverly Rejman; 16th Bethea Brice; 20th Ruth Ann Bradley; 22nd Benjamin Otis, Kay Burkett and Tina Post; 25th Skyler Dickinson Maassen; 26th Nils Nobben; 29th Mary Lou Charles, Cathy Mullarney; 31st Addison Young Otis

Anniversaries: 29th Bruce and Priscilla Berggren-Thomas; 31st Benjamin and Kristin Otis

For more information about calendar events, check the PRISM or contact pr.prism@gmail.com

**MINUTES FOR POPLAR RIDGE
MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS
NOVEMBER 17, 2019**

Gather: present were: Christopher Sammond, Sally Otis, Phyllis Bunker, Suzanne O'Hara, Dill Otis, Scott Lockhart, Julie Lockhart, Andy Simkin, A.T. Miller, Craig Kukuk, Larry Buffam, Howard Nelson. We began with some silence.

1. October minutes: minutes were read.
2. Report on Fall Sessions / Alternate Pathways to Membership: Phyllis reported on her experience at the session with the committee working on Alternative Pathways to Membership. She touched on various questions/concerns that have been raised about the new proposal, and the responses of the members of the committee. She felt that every argument raised was effectively addressed. Christopher reported that PRMM's request for more time was delivered in a letter to the committee, but the committee decided to go forward and accept the proposal. This was done, and the committee's proposal was approved by the body of NYYM. We now have the choice to raise our objection again, or not to. If we do want to object, how are we going to do that? Other comments were made about the nature of membership and related factors and situations. It was suggested that we stay engaged and see how the new membership policy plays out, perhaps raising concerns again in the future, but not take any formal action at present. This was approved, with Paul Simkin standing aside.
3. Ministry & Counsel Report: Charlie spoke about the visit of Jonathan Vogel Borne and Kristina Keefe-Perry's visit this spring. A date needs to be chosen. They will be making a preliminary visit to get to know PRMM better on December 1-3. Charlie is putting together a schedule for the preliminary visit, including visits with committees and other members. He also expressed regret for not having been

present at the meeting when this project was approved. He said that M&C hopes that it will be a community strengthening experience. The date of March 13-15 was chosen, with April 3-5 as a snow date. In addition to their other work here, Jonathan and Kristina will also lead worship on that weekend.

4. Finance Committee: Andy presented a first draft of the 2019 budget summary with 2020 draft, not looking for approval today, but rather review and comments. The hand-out also included a review of account balances and a history of NYYM contributions. He noted that the Ann Frank Tree Project has been recommended by Peace & Social Action to be added to the charitable contribution, after review of three requests. There was some discussion of provisions and history of specific fund accounts. It was decided to rename the Youth Fund as the Houck Youth Fund. Christopher asked whether we want to recommend to the Finance Committee that there be any increase in our NYYM donation. Friends were not clear to do so.

Andy reported on research into investment possibilities. He distributed a hand-out on Friends Fiduciary Short Term Investment Fund, a socially responsible investment fund. He asked for approval to go ahead with this fund for our \$30,000 investment, authorizing the Clerk of the Meeting to sign the investment agreement, and authorizing the Clerk and Treasurer as signatories. This was approved.

5. Peace & Social Action: Larry reported on the request to write a minute in support of Claire Grady, recently convicted of crimes while engaged in civil disobedience. The letter was read, some small changes were made, and the letter was approved to be signed by the Clerk and sent, prior to sentencing, to the court. A copy will also be sent to the person who made the request.

6. Building Committee: Andy reported that the committee met and reviewed the parking lot/rear vestibule project, and things are in good shape. There has been discussion of accessibility issues, and the possibility of installing a lift at the NE corner of the building. Further investigation is taking place. Improvement/insulation of the south addition of the building is also under consideration.
7. Youth Committee: Scott reported on the Halloween Carnival. \$263 was raised for UNICEF. The number of attendees was down somewhat, but the event went well. He thanked all who helped out. It was noted that this was the 30th year of the Halloween Carnival tradition, a positive community event. He announced that December 22 will be the annual Christmas pageant.
8. FSRM Listening Session: Christopher reported that the Region's Ministry & Counsel Committee is offering a session for listening to what has life in our meetings, taking place as a conference call on November 18. He asked if anyone would be able to participate. No one was able to do so.
9. Larry noted that Peace & Social Action has asked that the librarian make DVDs of movies used for movie nights available in the meeting house library. They can be checked out with the same process as books.
10. Sally asked about the directory up-dating, how to determine who should be kept on the list. It was suggested that the pastoral care provider be given a list and be asked to contact those in question. She also noted that the phone tree has been updated but not yet distributed.
11. Meeting closed with some silence.

Respectfully submitted,
Howard Nelson, Recording Clerk

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Lights, action, Christmas!

Please join us on Sunday, December 22 at 5pm for our annual Christmas Pageant, simple supper, and visit from Santa. The celebration begins as people of all ages, particularly children, perform the story of Jesus's birth in story and song. If you have little ones, please encourage your children to take part! We will begin discussing roles with the kids a couple of weeks before the big day, downstairs during worship time.

After the pageant on Sunday the 22nd, we will adjourn downstairs for a simple supper. Families, please bring easy to clean up finger foods to share. Cookies are always welcome. Hot chocolate will be provided.

The excitement returns upstairs with Santa's anticipated arrival. With help from his elves, Santa will visit with the children and give each child a small gift to celebrate a season of good will and sharing with others. The evening should wrap up around 7:30.



THE SHEPHERDS' PLAY

The annual Shepherds' Play performance will be on Saturday, December 21st at 7:00 p.m in our Meetinghouse and on Friday, December 20th at the Waldorf School in Ithaca. We hope you will all be able to attend this special musical rendition of the Christmas Story. For many in this community it is the true beginning of Christmas!

WINTER CHEER BOXES

Sunday, December 15th will be “Winter Cheer” or White Gifts” Sunday. Each year at Christmas time we make up boxes of food items for those people in our community who could use a bit of “winter cheer”. If you would like to contribute items of canned goods such as soup, small containers or fruit or pudding, cookies, candy, nuts, etc. please bring them to Meeting on December 15th or any time before and leave them either downstairs in the kitchen or on the stage upstairs in the Meeting House.

On Monday Morning on the 16th a group of women and/or men will meet at 9AM to box these items and deliver them to the chosen community members. Come join us if you would like to. If you know of anyone who could use a “cheer box” please let Karen Simkin know. (phone number: 315-364-8674 – email klsnl22@gmail.com.)



NYYM FALL SESSIONS MINUTES ONLINE

The minutes from the recent NYYM Fall Sessions [are now online](#). Several important decisions were reached, including the approval of a new form of membership, movement toward divesting the YM's assets from fossil fuels, and approval of a budget with funding for an interim Young Adult Field Secretary for the first half of 2020. The operating budget will be revisited at Spring Sessions.

BOLIVIA QUAKER EDUCATION FUND (BQEF) QUAKER STUDY TOUR

Bolivia Quaker Education Fund is sponsoring a two-week tour of Bolivia and its rich culture and astounding natural beauty, July 9-22, 2020. This year there will be an added emphasis on studying climate change and its impact. The tour will be led by Dr. Stanley Blanco, the founder of a non-profit to improve Bolivian children's health who is also a bilingual tour leader and international aid manager, assisted by Alicia Lucasi of BQEF and Guido Quispe, a BQEF graduate and environmental specialist. The tour is inspired by the work of Jennie M. Ratcliffe, an environmental research scientist, activist, and Quaker who makes connections between peace, justice, and ecological sustainability in her book, *Nothing Lowly in the Universe: An Integral Approach to the Ecological Crisis*. Former graduates of our scholarship program will be among those presenting and assisting with the tour.

Come to learn about Bolivia's history and culture, from pre-Incan traditions to the emergence of modern Bolivia. Travelers will visit Quaker communities in the Altiplano region to witness environmental adaptations in the high plains. Participants will fly into Sucre, a UNESCO World Heritage site and former capital. The itinerary will include La Paz, the stunning salt flats of Solar de Uyuni, Quaker communities in the Altiplano, the pre-Incan ruins of Tiwanaku, and Lake Titicaca, ending in the current capital, La Paz. For further information email qst.bolivia@gmail.com.

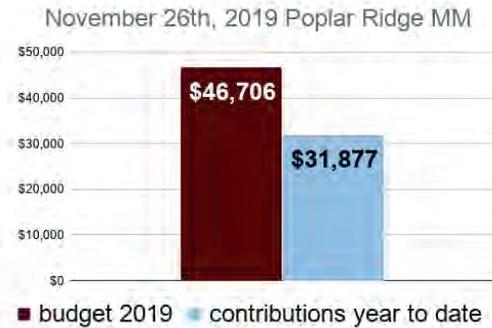
Pastoral needs or questions:
Call Craig Kukuk at 734-717-7719.

CHRISTMAS MESSIAH IN AUBURN

On December 8th 4pm Symphoria and the Syracuse Pops Chorus join forces to present the Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah, including the magnificent Hallelujah Chorus. This musical setting of the Christmas story has become a holiday tradition for many families. The “Hallelujah Chorus” so moved King George II that he sprang to his feet on hearing it, and audiences have continued to do so ever since. This event will be held at St. Mary's Church, 15 Clark Street, Auburn, NY. (\$10/adult, \$8/senior, \$5/student with ID, free children 18 and under)

2019 Budget Summary with 2020 Draft

Category	2019 budget	Paid YTD	2020 proposed	Comments
Building and grounds	\$750	\$554	\$750	2018 furnace repair bill rec'd in 2019
Conferences	\$300		\$300	
Contribute to Gen/Cap Fund	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	
Electric	\$1,000	\$774	\$1,000	
Fuel Oil	\$3,000	\$1,768	\$3,000	May need one more delivery
Gardens Committee	\$450	\$430	\$450	\$500 earmarked contributions (\$450 in 2018)
Housekeeping	\$1,500	\$1,050	\$1,500	
Insurance	\$1,100	\$1,064	\$1,100	
Library Committee	\$50		\$125	Pendle Hill pamphlet subscription included for 2020
Ministry and Counsel Comm	\$200	\$536	\$200	some 2019 exp will be in Religious Ed line
Misc.	\$400	\$210	\$400	PO Box rental, 2 address stamps, FUM and FJ subscriptions
Motto Calendars	\$200.00		\$200.00	
NYYM	\$8,000	\$6,000	\$8,000	
Outreach	\$125	\$46	\$125	
Pastoral Care Compensation	\$12,000	\$9,000	\$12,840	7% Cost of living increase
Pastoral care expenses	\$1,500.00	\$930.00	\$1,500.00	some 2019 expenses not yet reimbursed to date
Prism	\$250	\$131	\$250	
Regional Meeting	\$516	\$516	\$516	
Religious Edu./ Youth Comm.	\$0		\$300	2020 for adult rel ed/ youth by in-kind & youth fund
Snow Plowing	\$300	\$100	\$300	
Social Committee	\$100		\$100	
Speaker Honorarium	\$7,800	\$6,700	\$7,800	
Treasurer Expenses	\$250	\$245	\$275	two mailings; printer ink
Outside Contributions				Contributions to be mailed this week!
Am. Friends Service	\$100.00		\$100.00	
Anne Frank Tree Project			\$100.00	new item
AVP	\$100.00		\$100.00	
Bolivian Quaker Edu.	\$100.00		\$100.00	
Camp Gregory	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	
CCAIM - Cay. Co. Interfaith	\$50.00		\$50.00	
Center on Conscience	\$100.00		\$100.00	
Christian Peacemakers	\$100.00		\$100.00	
FCNL	\$400.00		\$400.00	
FGC	\$50.00		\$50.00	
Friends World Com.	\$50.00		\$50.00	
Human Services Cayuga	\$40.00		\$40.00	
Jericho Road/Vive Shelter	\$100.00		\$100.00	
Non-Violent Peace Force	\$50.00		\$50.00	
NYS Council of Churches.	\$25.00		\$25.00	
San Pedro Sister Community	\$250.00		\$250.00	
The Sharing Fund	\$50.00		\$50.00	
Wider Parish	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	
Total	\$46,706	\$35,404	\$48,046	YTD Contributions \$25,596 = 54.8% of budget



68.25% of our 2019 Budget has been met

POPLAR RIDGE FRIENDS MEETING

Clerk – Hannah Richter	Pastoral Care - Craig Kukuk (734-717-7719)
Assistant Clerk – Christopher Sammond	Recording Clerk Howard Nelson
Treasurer – Ruth Bradley	Ministry & Counsel Clerk – Charlie Weld
Musicians – Claire Howard, Jeff Layton, Cathy Mullarney, Mary Jo Granger	

Poplar Ridge Friends meet every Sunday at 10 am for worship. The fourth Sunday of the month is an unprogrammed meeting. The fifth Sunday has a variety of formats. Nursery is available during meeting. The meetinghouse is located at 1868 Poplar Ridge Road, Poplar Ridge, NY 13139.

See <http://www.quaker.org/poplar/> for more information, Visit us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/poplarridgefriendsny>.

To change or correct a mailing label please contact Sally Otis at sotis3067@gmail.com or Scott Heinekamp at 246-7151. You can request PRISM electronically by emailing pr.prism@gmail.com.

To contribute items for PRISM contact us at pr.prism@gmail.com or
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